### PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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22)Date of filing: 19.11.1993 (72)Inventor: MATSUBARA MASARU BABA HIDETOSHI KAYUKAWA MASAHIDE

#### (54) CERAMIC TOOL FOR CUTTING VERY HARD MATERIAL

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To improve the abrasion resistance against a very hard material when the material is cut and worked at high speed, and to restrict peeling of a coating film by specifying the average particle size of the composition particle of a ceramic main body, and by specifying the thickness of the coating film.

CONSTITUTION: A ceramic tool comprises a sintered body, for which a sintered material and a sintering assistant are mixed together and sintered, and at least one layer coating film to be formed on the surface of the sintered body. The average particle size of the overall composition forming the sintered body is no more than 1.8 m.u.m, and the sintered material comprises 90-50wt.% of powder of carbide, nitride or carbonitride of elements belonging to IVa, Va, and Vla groups, where the overall amount is considered to be 100wt.% The amount of the sintering assistant is 0.2-5.0wt.% to 100wt.% of sintered material, while the coating film comprises carbide, nitride, carbonitride of elements belonging to IVa, Va, Vla groups. A12O3 or A1ON, and each layer is no more than 2μm in thickness, and the entire thickness is 0.2-20μm.

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#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION

### [Detailed Description of the Invention]

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[Industrial Application] this invention is excellent in abrasion resistance, a mechanical strength, etc., and relates to the ceramic tool which can be used for high-speed-cutting processing of high degree-of-hardness material, such as a carburization hardened steel, a die steel, and tool steel.

#### [COOO]

[Description of the Prior Art] Although the grinding process of the high degree-of-hardness material, such as a carburization hardened steel, a die steel, and tool steel, has been conventionally carried out by the grinding stone, in order that it may process it more at high speed, shift is achieved to cutting by a ceramic tool or CBN tools, such as an alumina-titanium-carbide system. However, an alumina-titanium-carbide system coramic tool has a short life, and it cannot respond to improvement in the speed of cutting a top lacking in reliability, but, recently, a CBN tool is used in many cases. However, although a CBN tool is excellent in cutting-ability ability, it is very expensive, and is cheap among users, and its voice which desires development of the ceramic tool which has the high performance which is equal to a CBN tool is high in especially hish-speed-cutting processing.

[0003] With the technology which the various attempts for improving the abrasion resistance and definit-proof nature of a ceramic tool, such as an alumina-thanin-acabide system, are made there, and was indicated by Pg-41-14955, A By calcinating the raw material powder which blended detailed powder, such as a zirconium oxide, with the detailed powder of an alumina, the technology of improving abrasion resistance is indicated by preparing the covering fillm which is aiming at improvement in intensity and toughness, and becomes Pg-4289002, A and Pg-5-69205, A from the carbide of the alloy of an alumina, a titanium carbide, titanium, and aluminum etc. on the front face of a ceramic base material. Although those cutting tools are excellent in performances, such as abrasion resistance, compared with the conventional ceramic tool, a CPM tool is not attained to especially in high speed cutting, but cutting in high speed is expected development of an usable ceramic tool.

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] this invention solves the above-mentioned trouble and makes it a technical problem to offer the ceramic tool for cutting which can be used for cutting of high degree-of-hardness material in high-speed-cutting processing which is equal to the cutting conditions of a CBN tool.

#### 100051

[Means for Solving the Problem] The ceramic tool for high degree-of-hardness material cutting of \*\*\*\* 1 invention In the ceramic tool for cutting which consists of a sintered compact which mixes and comes to calcinate a sintering raw material and a sintering acid, and a covering film of at least one layer formed in the above-mentioned sintering body surface The mean particle diameter of all the components that constitute the above-mentioned sintered compact is 1 micrometer or less, the above-mentioned sintering raw material When the whole quantity is made into 100 % of the weight, it is 90 - 50% of the weight of aluminum 203. Component powder, It consists of one or more sorts of powder of the carbide of 10 - 50% of the weight of IVa. Va, and a VIa group element, a nitride, and a charcoal nitride, the above-mentioned sintering acid It is 0.2 - 5.0 % of the weight to the 100 % of the weight of the above-mentioned sintering raw materials, moreover, the above-mentioned covering film The carbide of IVa, Va, and a VIa group element, a nitride, a charcoal nitride, and aluminum 2O3 Or it is characterized by consisting of AION, and for the thickness of each class being 2 micrometers or less, and total thickness being 0.2-10 micrometers. [0006] The 2nd invention is characterized by for the mean particle diameter of all the components that constitute the above-mentioned sintered compact being 0.7 micrometers or less, and the thickness of each class of the above-mentioned covering film being 1 micrometer or less, moreover, the 3rd invention Above aluminum 2O3 Component powder is 95 - 50% of the weight of aluminum 203, when the whole quantity is made into 100 % of the weight. Powder and 5 - 50% of the weight of ZrO2 It is characterized by the bird clapper from powder. Furthermore, the 4th invention is characterized by being a layer with a thickness of 1 micrometer or less which the above-mentioned covering film becomes from two or more layers, and an innermost layer becomes from aluminum 2O3 or AlON, and being a layer with a thickness of 0.5 micrometers or less which an outermost layer of drum becomes from TiN, and the ceramic tool of the 5th invention is characterized by the amount of average flank wear measured according to the specific test condition indicated to the claim 5 being 0.2mm or less.

[0007] The above "a sintering raw material" consists of the "aluminum2O3 component powder" and "one or more sorts of powder of the carbide of IVa, Va, and a VIa group element, a nitride, and a charcoal nitride" (henceforth "powder, such as a titanium

carbide,") which are principal components. As "powder, such as a titanium carbide,", the powder of the carbide of VIa group elements, such as Va group elements, such as titanium and a zirconium, vanadium, and a tantalum, and chromium, and a tungsten, a nitride, and a charcoal nitride can be used, and, specifically, powder, such as a titanium carbide, a titanium nitride, a tantalum carbide, and a tungsten carbide, is mentioned. Powder, such as these titanium carbides, may use one kind, and may use two or more sorts together.

[0008] When the whole quantity of a sintering raw material is made into 100 % of the weight, the mixed rate of each above-mentioned component is "aluminum 203 component powder is 90 - 50 % of the weight", and is "powder, such as a titanium carbide, is 10 - 50 % of the weight "aluminum 203 The mean particle diameter of all the components from which the rate of component powder constitutes a sintered compact exceeding 90 % of the weight when high becomes large exceeding I micrometer, and anti-\*\*\* which is the index of toughness declines. Moreover, less than 50 % of the weight is not enough as precise-izing of a sintered compact, relative density becomes small, and anti-\*\*\* is also aluminum 203. It falls further from the case where component powder exceeds 90 % of the weight Moreover, the above aluminum 203 Component powder is Zro2 even about the amount of halves. By transposing to powder, it is aluminum 203. Growth of a particle is suppressed, and if it is the combination which other component and its amount approximated, the degree of bardness and anti-\*\*\*\* of anti-\*\*\*\* is aluminum 203 and the strength of sintered compact can be raised further. However, the amount of halves is exceeded and it is ZrO2. When it transposes to powder, since the mechanical strength of sintered compact such as anti-\*\*\*\* [alls, is into desirable.

[0009] As the above "a sintering acid", a magnesium oxide, a calcium oxide, oxidization silicon, nickel oxide, a chrome oxide, an oxidization dysprosium, a yttirum oxide, etc. are mentioned, and it can be used, without restricting especially these. Especially a magnesium oxide is [an effect which inhibits the crystal growth of an alumina ] and is desirable. In this invention, a sintering acid is used 0.2 to 5.0% of the weight to 100 % of the weight of sintering raw materials. When the amount of the sintering acid used is less than 0.2 % of the weight, while precise: Fixing of a sintered compact is not enough and relative density falls greatly, a degree of hardness and anti-\*\*\*\* also decline greatly. Moreover, exceeding 5.0 % of the weight, when many, the mean particle diameter of all the components that form a sintered compact becomes large, and it becomes that in which anti-\*\*\*\* etclined and toughness was inferior. Especially the amount of the sintering acid used has 0.5 - 1.5% of the weight of a desirable range, and if it is this range, it will become that in which a degree of hardness, anti-\*\*\*\*\*\*, etc. were more excellent in addition, the range whose particle size is 0.3-1.2 micrometers in this invention although all the particles that constitute a sintered compact have a more detailed desirable thing -- a mean particle diameter -- a thing 1.0 micrometers or less -- a mean particle diameter can use particle size 1 a thing 0.7 micrometers or less -- a mean particle diameter can use

[010] aluminum 203 besides the carbide of the IVa same as a raw material which forms the above "a covering film" as the component which constitutes the above-mentioned sintered compact, Va, and a Vla group element, a nitride, and a charcoal nitride, and AlON are mentioned, these are excellent in compatibility with a sintered compact, and a covering film does not exfoliate from a sintering body surface, and a degree of hardness is high, and since it excels in abrasion resistance etc, it is desirable. Although there should just be at least one layer of covering films, it is desirable that 2 micrometers os of thickness of each class was the above thin layers and it is used for high-speed cutting, a covering film does not exfoliate. moreover, an innermost layer — aluminum 203 with a thickness of 1 micrometer or less or — if an AlON layer and is no utermost layer of drum form the covering film which consists of a titanium-nitride layer with a thickness of 0.5 micrometers or less — aluminum 203 with the sintered compact made into a subject, surface hardness is very high, and the ceramic tool which has a front face without a grain-boundary glass phase is obtained, and it is more desirable.

### [0011]

Function] When cutting high degree-of-hardness material, such as a carburization hardened steel and a die steel, and carrying out cutting especially at high speed, it becomes the elevated temperature of 1000 degrees C or more partially. Therefore, since the rapid fall of a degree of hardness, intensity, etc. takes place in the usual ceramic tool, and intense wear is produced or a loss is suffered depending on the case, a tool life is short. In this invention, by combining the sintering acid of the amount of specification with a specific sintering raw material, I micrometer or less of mean particle diameters of the component particle of most which constitutes an organization can be preferably set to 0.7 micrometers, and an alumina system sintered compact with very high degree of hardness and intensity can be obtained. Moreover, when the thickness of each class forms preferably 2 micrometers or less of covering films I micrometer or less of at least one layer in the front face of this sintered compact, it excels in the adhesion to a base material, and can consider as a ceramic suitable as an object for the cutting tools of the high degree-of-hardness material which has large covering films, such as a degree of hardness and intensity. Furthermore, when exposed to an elevated temperature in the above high speed cutting, even if a high degree of hardness and high intensity are maintained and the cutted temperature in the above high speed cutting to the office of the compact of the compact of the compact of the compact is the cutting speed by 150mm/which is the cutting-speed region of a CBN tool, it is usable enough.

#### [0012]

[Example] Hereafter, an example and the example of comparison explain this invention concretely.

(1) Manufacture \*\* aluminum 203 of a sintered compact Component: aluminum 203 of 0.5 micrometers of mean particle diameters ZrO2 of powder and 0.5 micrometers of mean particle diameters. TiC of 1 micrometer of: mean particle diameters, such as powder and a \*\* titanium carbide, TiCN, TaC, WC powder, a \*\* sintering acid: MgO of 0.2 micrometers of mean particle diameters, Y203 of 0.9 micrometers of mean particle diameters, and Dy203 Powder and each above component. It mixed at a

rate shown in Table I (operation article) and 2 (comparison article), and after strong-grinding by attrior, the hotpress was carried out at pressure 200 kg/cm2 and the temperature of 1700-1800 degrees C. The grinding process of the obtainstreed compact was carried out to the predetermined configuration, and the chip for a cutting test was produced (the operation article 2, 4, 5, and 7 is used). Moreover, the mean particle diameter of a sintered compact, relative density, a degree of hardness (measuring method : Vickers hardness and load 10 kgf), and anti-\*\*\* (measuring method : JISR-1601 conformity) were measured by the piece of a trial started from the above-mentioned sintered compact. Those results are shown in Tables 1 and 2 (each inside hyperventilation of \*\* expresses the above-mentioned degree of hardness). in addition, the table 2 -- setting -- \*- numerical limitation -- a thing out of range is expressed [10013]

[Table 1]

表 1

表 1								
実施品	烧粘原料	4 (重量%)	焼結助剤 (重量%)	平均粒子 径	相対密度(%)	HV (kg/mm²)	抗折力 (kg/me²)	
	Al 20 s	その他	(ME)/0/	(μm)	()0)	(Agy may )	(1187 = 17	
1	85	TiC 15	- Mg0 - 1.0	0.7	99. 5	2040	108	
2	70	TiC 30	Mg0 . 1.0	0.5	99. 5	2150	. 113	
3	55	TiC 45	Mg0 1.0	0.4	99. 2	2130	98	
4	70	TiCN 30	. MgO 1. O	0.4	99. 6	2110	121	
5	70	TiC + TaC 15 15	Mg0 1. 0	0.5	99.8	2180	. 124	
6	70	TiC + WC 15 15	MgO 1. Q	0,5	99.5	2090	113	
7	70	TiC -	NgO + Dy <sub>2</sub> O <sub>8</sub> 0.5 0.5	0.4	99.8	2210	131	
8	70	TiC 30	MgD 4. 0	0.9	99. 8	1980	. 96	
9.	70	TiC 30	Ms0 2.0	0.8	99. 8	2030	103	
10	55 + Zr0 <sub>2</sub> 15	TiC 30 -	M80 2. 0	0.5	99.7	1950	108	

[0014] [Table 2]

2

			表	2			
比較品	烧結原料	(重量%)	使結助剤 (重量%)	平均粒子	相対密度 (%)	HV	抗折力
	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	その他	(風麗光)	(μm)	(%)	(kg/mm²)	(KB/ME-)
1	* 95	TiC 15	Mg0 1.0	1. 5	99. 9	1870	95
2	* 45	TiC 55	Mg0 1.0	0, 4	98.5	1830	74
3	70	TiC 30	Mg0 ∗ 0. 1	0. 5	89. 9	1560	52
4	70	TiC 30	Mg0 * 6. 0	1.3	99. 9	1740	84
5	15+Zr0 <sub>2</sub> * 55	TiC 30	Mg0 - 2, 0	0. 5	98.9	1710	97

[0015] As for the sintered compact used for the ceramic tool of this invention, according to the result of Table 1, it turns out that all are 1 micrometer or less and relative density is [a degree of hardness and anti-\*\*\*\*] excellent for the mean particle diameter of all the components at 99 % of the weight or more and the high top. When especially the amount of the sintering acid used is 1 % of the weight, compared with the case where the amount used is 2 % of the weight or more, it excels further, according to the

result of Table 2 on the other hand -- aluminum 2O3 or the case (comparison article 3) where the mean particle diameter of all the components of a sintered compact exceeds 1 micrometer, and a degree of hardness and anti-\*\*\* are inferior, and MgO is under a minimum when MgO exceeds an upper limit (comparison article 1 and 4) -- relative density, a degree of hardness, and anti-\*\*\*\* -- any -- although -- it turns out that it is falling greatly Also in the case of others, a degree of hardness and anti-\*\*\*\* decline, and no comparison articles can be used as a sintered compact for obtaining the ceramic tool of this invention.

[0016] (2) The manufacture above of a ceramic tool (1) The covering film shown in Tables 3 (example) and 4 (example of comparison) was formed in the produced chip front face for a cutting test by well-known CVD or well-known PVD, and the

cutting test was carried out on the following conditions.

\*\* \*\*-ed material: -- SCN415 carburizing material (Hv=850-700 Kg/mm2) \*\* chip configuration: -- TNGN332 \*\* cutting-speed: -- after having \*\* sent by 200m/, :0.1 mm/rev\*\* cutting deeply and cutting \*\*-ed material for 30 minutes on the :0.3mm\*\* chamfer:0.2mmx-25-degree above-mentioned conditions, the amount of average flank wear (the amount of VB wear) was measured Those results are shown in Tables 3 and 4, in addition, the table 4 -- setting -- \* -- numerical limitation -- a thing out of range is expressed [0017]

[Table 3]

/ a. 磨耗量 (mm) 0. 18 0. 17	刺離の有無 なし
	なし
0. 17	
	なし
0. 15	なし
0. 17	なし
0. 16	なし
0. 18	なし
0.15	なし
0. 17	なし
0. 16	なし
0. 15	なし
0. 15	なし
0.17	なし
	0. 17 0. 16 0. 18 0. 15 0. 17 0. 16 0. 15 0. 15

[0018] [Table 41

比較例	使用烧結体 実施品N o	被覆膜種類及び厚さ (μm) 内層〜外層	全厚さ (μm)	V。磨耗量 (mm)	剝離の有無
. 1	2	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>8</sub> (0. 05)+TiC(0. 05)	* 0.1	0.30	なし
2	2	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (0.8)+TiC(0.8) ×7 潛	* 11.2	0. 32	捌離大
.3	2	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (* 3. 0) +TiC(0. 7)	3.7	0. 32	剝離
4	市販品	TiN(1, 0) (PVDコーティング)	1.0	0. 40	剥離、折損

[0019] According to the result of Table 3, a covering film does not excloiate [in / the high speed cutting of high degree-of-hardness material / each ], and the ceramic tool of this invention is VB. It turns out that the amount of wear is small. Moreover, it is aluminum 203 with a thickness of 0.7 micrometers for an innermost layer. Especially when the case of the covering film which used TiN with a thickness of 0.7 micrometers for the outermost layer. Especially when the case of the covering film with it excels in abrasion resistance. Each thing (example 3 of comparison) to which the thing (example 2 of comparison) and the thickness of one layer in which the total thickness of a covering film exceeded the thing (example 1 of comparison) and the thickness of one layer in which the total thickness of a covering film exceeded the thing (example 1 of comparison) and according to the result of Table 4 is VB. The amount of wear is about twice, and ablation of a covering film is also produced in the example 2 and 3 of comparison, and a surface-of-separation product is especially large in the example 2 of In addition, in the commercial elegance which carried out the cutting test similarly as an example 4 of comparison for reference, it turns out that there are still more amounts of wear, and they produce not only ablation but breakage of a chip, and are inferior to the example of comparison in this invention in a performance remarkably compared with the ceramic tool of this invention.

[Effect of the Invention] The mean particle diameter of the constituent particle of a ceramic main part is a specific minute particle, and since it has the covering film of specific thickness, the outstanding degree of hardness and intensity are maintained, and the ceramic tool for high degree-of-hardness material cutting of this invention can be used as substitution of a CBN tool, when it excels in a degree of hardness and intensity and cutting of the high degree-of-hardness material, such as a carburization hardened steel and a die steel, is carried out at high spece.

[Translation done.]

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#### CLAIMS

#### [Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] The sintered compact which mixes and comes to calcinate a sintering raw material and a sintering said. The covering fillin of at least one layer formed in the above-mentioned sintering body surface. It is the ceramic tool for high degree-of-hardness material cutting equipped with the above, and the mean particle diameter of all the components that constitute the above-mentioned sintering raw material When the whole quantity is made into 100 % of the weight, it is 90 - 50% of the weight of aluminum 20.3. Component powder, It consists of one or more sorts of powder of the carbide of 10 - 50% of the weight of IVa, Va, and a VIa group element, a nitride, and a charcoal nitride, the above-mentioned sintering acid It is 0.2 - 5.0 % of the weight to the 100 % of the weight of the above-mentioned sintering raw materials. moreover, the above-mentioned covering film The carbide of IVa, Va, and a VIa group element, a nitride, a charcoal nitride, and aluminum 203 Or it is characterized by consisting of AlON, and for the thickness of each class being 2 micrometers or less, and total thickness being 0.2-10 micrometers.

[Claim 2] The ceramic tool for high degree-of-hardness material cutting according to claim 1 characterized by for the mean particle diameter of all the components that constitute the above-mentioned sintered compact being 0.7 micrometers or less, and the thickness of each class of the above-mentioned covering film being 1 micrometer or less.

[Claim 3] Above aluminum 203 Component powder is 95 - 50% of the weight of aluminum 203, when the whole quantity is made into 100 % of the weight. Powder and 5 - 50% of the weight of ZrO2 Ceramic tool for high degree-of-hardness material cutting according to claim 1 or 2 characterized by the bird clapper from powder.

[Claim 4] The above-mentioned covering film consists of two or more layers, and an innermost layer is aluminum 203. Or ceramic tool for high degree-of-hardness material cutting according to claim 1, 2, or 3 characterized by being a layer with a thickness of 1 micrometer or less it is thin from AION, and being a layer with a thickness of 0.5 micrometers or less which an outermost layer of drum becomes from TiN.

[Claim 5] The ceramic tool for high degree-of-hardness material cutting according to claim 1, 2, 3, or 4 characterized by the amount of average flank wear by the following test condition being 0.2mm or less. test condition [ of the amount of flank wear ]:

-\*\*-ed material; -- a part for SCN415 carburizing material (Hv=700-850 Kg/mm2) and cutting-speed;250m/-- sending --;0.1 mm/rev -- cutting deeply --;0.3mm and chamfer;0.2mmx-25 degree

#### [Translation done.]

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#### (54) 【発明の名称】 高硬度材切削用セラミック工具

#### (57)【要約】

【目的】 硬度、強度等が大きく、高硬度材を高速で切削加工する際の耐酔矩性にも優れ、また、焼結体表面に 形成される被機膜の剥離等を生ずることのないセラミッ ク工具を機(性する。

【構成】 平均整径0.5 $\mu$ mのAl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>粉末70重量%、平均整径1 $\mu$ mのTi C粉末30重操%に、これら 起放分企能は対して1.0 転換%のMg O S使抗制期 として加えて混合し、アトライターで強粉砕した後、圧力200 $\mu$ m/m, 温度1700~1800でホットブルス上統結体を得る。この統結体を切削工具用のチップ形状に倒削し、この表面にCVD法或いはPVD法によって、厚さ0.2 $\mu$ mのAl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>層(内層)及び呼さ0.1 $\mu$ mのTi C層(外層)からなる破硬膜を形成、高板度核材刷加工用のセラミック工具を得る。

#### 【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 焼結原料と焼結助剤とを混合し、焼成し てなる焼結体と、上記焼結体表面に形成される少なくと も1層の被覆膜とからなる切削用セラミック工具におい τ.

上記焼結体を構成する全成分の平均粒径が1μm以下で あり、上記焼結原料は、その全量を100重量%とした 場合に、90~50重量%のA12O3成分粉末と、10 ~50重量%のIVa、Va、VIa族元素の炭化物、 窒化物及び炭窒化物の1種以上の粉末とからなり、上記 10 焼結助剤は、上記焼結原料100重量%に対して0.2 5.0重量%であり、また、上記被覆膜は、IVa、 Va、VIa族元素の炭化物、窒化物、炭窒化物、Al2 O3 又はA1ONからなり、且つ、各層の厚さが2 um 以下であり、全厚さが0.2~10μmであることを特 徴とする高硬度材切削用セラミック工具.

【請求項2】 上記焼結体を構成する全成分の平均粒径 が 0. 7 μ m以下であり、上記被覆膜の各層の厚さが 1 μm以下であることを特徴とする請求項1記載の高硬度 材切削用セラミック工具。

【請求項3】 上記Al2O3 成分粉末は、その全量を1 00重量%とした場合に、95~50重量%のAl2O3 粉末と5~50重量%の2rQ2粉末とからなることを 特徴とする請求項1又は2記載の高硬度材切削用セラミ

【請求項4】 上記被覆膜が複数の層からなり、最内層 がAl2O3 又はAlONからなる厚さ1 um以下の層で あり、最外層がTiNからなる厚さ0.5μm以下の層 であることを特徴とする請求項1、2又は3記載の高硬 度材切削用セラミック工具。

【請求項5】 下記の試験条件による平均逃げ面磨耗量 が 0.2 mm以下であることを特徴とする請求項1、 2、3又は4記載の高硬度材切削用セラミック工具。逃 げ面磨耗量の試験条件:被削材;SCM415浸炭焼き 入れ材 (Hv=700~850 Kg/mm2) 、切削速度; 250 m/ 分、送り; 0. 1 mm/rev、切込み; 0. 3 mm、 チャンファー; 0. 2 mm×-25° 【発明の詳細な説明】

#### [0001]

【産業上の利用分野】本発明は、耐磨耗性、機械的強度 40 等に優れ、浸炭焼き入れ鋼、ダイス鋼、工具鋼等の高硬 度材の高速切削加工に使用できるセラミック工具に関す

#### [0002]

【従来の技術】浸炭焼き入れ鋼、ダイス鋼、工具鋼等の 高硬度材は、従来、砥石により研削加工されてきたが、 加工効率を高め、より高速で加工するため、アルミナー 炭化チタン系等のセラミック工具或いはCBN工具によ る切削加工へと移行が図られている。ところが、アルミ ナー炭化チタン系セラミック工具は寿命が短く、信頼性 50 以下の層であり、最外層がTiNからなる厚さ0.5 μ

に乏しいうえ、切削加工の高速化に対応できず、最近で はCBN工具が使用されることが多い。しかし、CBN 工具は切削性能には優れるものの、非常に高価であり、 ユーザーの間では安価であって、且つ、特に高速切削加 工において、CBN工具に匹敵する高性能を有するセラ ミック工具の開発を望む声が高い。

【0003】そこで、アルミナー炭化チタン系等のセラ ミック工具の耐磨耗性や耐欠損性を改善するための種々 の試みがなされており、特開平4-114955号公報 に記載された技術では、アルミナの微細粉末に酸化ジル コニウム等の微細粉末を配合した原料粉末を焼成するこ とにより、強度、靱性の向上を図っており、また、特開 平4-289002号及び特開平5-69205号公報 には、セラミック母材の表面にアルミナ、炭化チタン、 チタンとアルミニウムとの合金の炭化物等からなる被覆 膜を設けることにより、耐磨耗性を改善する技術が開示 されている。それらの切削工具は従来のセラミック工具 に比べて、耐磨耗性等の性能は優れるものの、特に高速 切削においてはCBN工具には及ばず、高速での切削加 工に使用可能なセラミック工具の開発が望まれている。 [0004]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】本発明は、上記の問題 点を解決し、CBN工具の切削条件に匹敵する高速切削 加工において、高硬度材の切削加工に使用し得る切削用 セラミック工具を提供することを課題とする.

#### [0005]

【課題を解決するための手段】本第1祭明の高硬度材切 削用セラミック工具は、焼結原料と焼結助剤とを混合 し、焼成してなる焼結体と、上配焼結体表面に形成され 30 る少なくとも1層の被覆膜とからなる切削用セラミック 工具において、上記焼結体を構成する全成分の平均粒径 が1 µm以下であり、上記焼結原料は、その全量を10 0重量%とした場合に、90~50重量%のAl2O3成 分粉末と、10~50重量%のIVa、Va、VIa族 元素の炭化物、窒化物及び炭窒化物の1種以上の粉末と からなり、上記焼結助剤は、上記焼結原料100重量% に対して0.2~5.0重量%であり、また、上記被覆 膜は、IVa、Va、VIa族元素の炭化物、窒化物、 炭窒化物、Al2O3 又はAlONからなり、且つ、各層 の厚さが 2 μ m以下であり、全厚さが 0. 2~10 μ m であることを特徴とする。

【0006】第2発明は、上記焼結体を構成する全成分 の平均粒径が O. 7 μ m以下であり、上記被覆膜の各層 の厚さが1 u m以下であることを特徴とし、また、第3 発明は、上記Al2O3成分粉末は、その全量を100軍 量%とした場合に、95~50重量%のAl2O3粉末と 5~50重量%のZrO2粉末とからなることを特徴と する。更に、第4発明は、上記被覆膜が複数の層からな り、最内層がAl2O3又はAIONからなる厚さ1 um

m以下の層であることを特徴とし、第5発明のセラミッ ク工具は、請求項5に記載した特定の試験条件により測 定した平均逃げ面磨耗量が0.2mm以下であることを 特徴とする。

【0007】上記「焼結原料」は、主成分である「A12 O3 成分粉末」と「IVa、Va、VIa族元素の炭化 物、窒化物、炭窒化物の1種以上の粉末」(以下、「炭 化チタン等の粉末」という)とからなる。「炭化チタン 等の粉末」としては、チタン、ジルコニウム等の I Va 族元素、バナジウム、タンタル等のVa族元素及びクロ 10 ム、タングステン等のVIa族元素の炭化物、窒化物及 び炭窒化物の粉末が使用でき、具体的には、炭化チタ ン、窒化チタン、炭化タンタル、炭化タングステン等の 粉末が挙げられる。これら炭化チタン等の粉末は1種類 を用いてもよいし、2種以上を併用してもよい。

【0008】上記各成分の混合割合は、焼結原料の全量 を100重量%とした場合に、「Al2O3成分粉末が9 0~50重量%」であり、「炭化チタン等の粉末が10 ~50重量%1である。Al2O3成分粉末の割合が90 重量%を越えて高い場合は、焼結体を構成する全成分の 20 平均粒径が1μπを越えて大きくなり、靱性の指標であ る抗折力が低下する。また、50重量%未満では、焼結 体の緻密化が十分ではなく、相対密度が小さくなり、抗 折力もAl2O3 成分粉末が90重量%を越える場合より 更に低下する。また、上記A12O3成分粉末は、その半 分量までをZrO2 粉末に置き替えることにより、Al2 Os 粒子の成長が抑制され、他の成分及びその量が近似 した配合であれば、更に焼結体の硬度及び抗折力を向上 させることができる。しかし、半分量を超えてZrO2 粉末に置き替えた場合は、抗折力等焼結体の機械的強度 30 が低下するため好ましくない。

【0009】上記「焼結助剤」としては、酸化マグネシ ウム、酸化カルシウム、酸化珪素、酸化ニッケル、酸化 クロム、酸化ジスプロシウム、酸化イットリウム等が挙 げられ、これらを特に制限されることなく使用できる。 特に、酸化マグネシウムはアルミナの結晶成長を抑止す る効果があり好ましい。本発明では、焼結助剤は、焼結 原料100重量%に対して0.2~5.0重量%使用す る。焼結助剤の使用量が0.2重量%未満の場合は、焼 結体の緻密化が十分ではなく、相対密度が大きく低下す 40 るとともに、硬度及び抗折力も大きく低下する。また、 5. 0 重量%を超えて多い場合は、焼結体を形成する全 成分の平均粒径が大きくなり、抗折力等が低下して靱性 の劣ったものとなる。焼結助剤の使用量は、特に0.5 ~1. 5重量%の範囲が好ましく、この範囲であれば硬 度、抗折力等がより優れたものとなる。尚、焼結体を構 成する全粒子は、より微細であることが好ましいが、本 発明では、粒径が0.3~1.2 μ mの範囲で平均粒径 が1.0 u m以下のもの、特に好ましくは、粒径が0. 3~1.0 μmで平均粒径が0.7 μm以下のものを使 50 し、アトライターで強粉砕した後、圧力200 kg/c

用できる。

【0010】上記「被鞭膜」を形成する原料としては、 上記焼結体を構成する成分と同様のIVa、Va、VI a 族元素の炭化物、窒化物、炭窒化物の他、Al 2O3、 AIONが挙げられ、これらは焼結体との相溶性に優 れ、被覆膜が焼結体表面から剥離することがなく、ま た、硬度が高く、耐磨耗性等に優れるため好ましい。被 覆膜は少なくとも1層あればよいが、各層の厚さが2μ m以下、特に1μm以下であり、全厘さが0、2~10 μm以下の複数の層からなるものであることが好まし く、各層の厚さが上記のような薄層であれば、高速の切 削加工に使用した場合にも被覆膜が剥離することがな い。また、最内層が厚さ1μm以下のAl2O3 又はAl ON層、最外層が厚さ0.5 μm以下の窒化チタン層か らなる被覆膜を形成すれば、Al2O3を主体とする焼結 体との相溶性に優れるとともに、表面硬度が非常に高 く、粒界ガラス相のない表面を有するセラミック切削工 具が得られより好ましい。

[0011]

【作用】漫炭焼き入れ鋼、ダイス鋼等の高硬度材を切削 する場合、特に高速で切削加工する場合は、部分的に1 000℃以上の高温になる。そのため通常のセラミック 工具では硬度及び強度等の急激な低下が起こり、激しい 磨耗を生じたり、場合によっては欠損することもあり、 工具寿命は短い。本発明では、特定の焼結原料に、特定 量の焼結助剤を組み合わせることにより、組織を構成す る大部分の成分粒子の平均粒径を1 μ m以下、好ましく は0.7 µ mとすることができ、硬度及び強度が非常に 高いアルミナ系焼結体を得ることができる。また、この 焼結体の表面に各層の厚さが 2 μ m以下、好ましくは 1 μm以下の、少なくとも1層の被覆膜を形成することに より、母材への密着性に優れ、硬度、強度等の大きい被 覆膜を有する高硬度材の切削工具用として好適なセラミ ックとすることができる。更に、本発明の焼結体と被覆 膜とからなるセラミックを使用した切削工具は、上記の ような高速切削において高温に晒された場合も、高い硬 度及び強度が維持され、CBN工具の切削速度域である 150mm/分以上の切削速度であっても十分使用可能 である。

#### [0012]

【実施例】以下、実施例及び比較例により本発明を具体 的に説明する。 (1) 焼結体の製造

Al2O3成分: 平均粒径0. 5μmのAl2O3粉 末、平均粒径0.5 μmの2rO2粉末、② 炭化チタ ン等: 平均粒径1 μ mのTiC、TiCN、TaC、W C粉末、③ 焼結助剤:平均粒径0.2μmのMgO、 平均粒径 0.9 μmのY 203、Dy203 粉末、以上の各成分 を表1 (実施品)及び表2 (比較品)に示す割合で混合

m<sup>2</sup>、温度1700~1800℃でホットプレスした。 得られた鏡緒体を所定形状に研削加工して、切削アスト 用のチップを作製(実施品2、4、5及び7を使用)した。また、上記焼結体から切り出した鉄片により、焼結 体の平均粒性、相対密度、硬度(測定方法:ビッカース 硬度、衡度10kg/)、抗打が、微定方法:JISRー 1601に準拠)を測定した。それらの結果を表1及び 2(各表中HVは上記便度を表す)に示す。尚、表2に おいて\*は款値限定範囲外であることを表す。 [0013] 【表1]

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表 1

	表 1								
実施品	焼結原料	4 (重量%)	焼結助剤 (重量%)	平均粒子	相対密度 (%)	HV (kg/mm²)	抗折力 (kg/mm²)		
<b>火加00</b> 0	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	その他	(重里/0/	(μm) (χο)	(70)	(MB/1000 /	( K 6 / LIII /		
1	85	TiC 15	M80 1.0	0.7	99. 5	2040	108		
2	70	TiC 30	MgO 1.0	0.5	99. 5	2150	113		
3	55	TiC 45	MgO 1.0	0.4	99. 2	2130	98		
4	70	TiCN 30.	M80 1.0	0. 4	99. 6	2110	121		
5	70	TiC + TaC 15 15	Ms0 1.0	0.5	99. 8	2180	. 124		
6	. 70	TiC + WC 15 15	MgO 1.0	0.5	99.5	2090	113		
7	70	TiC 30	MgO + Dy <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> 0.5 0.5	0.4	99, 8	2210	131		
8	70	TiC 30	Mg0 4.0	0.9	99.8	1980	. 96		
9.	70	TiC 30	MgO 2. 0	0, 8	99. 8	2030	103		
10	55 + 2r0≥15	TiC 30	Mg0 2.0	0.5	99.7	1950	108		

[0014]

【表2】

. 9

			. 20	2			
比較品	焼結原料	(重量%)	焼結助剤 (重量%)	詰助剤 平均粒子 相対密度 HV 重量%) 径 (%) (kg/mm²)	対密度 HV		
	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	その他	(風里元)	(μm)	(70)	(48/100 )	(kg/mm²)
1	* 95	TiC - 15	Mg0 1. 0	1.5	99. 9	1870	95
2	* 45	TiC 55	MgO 1. 0	0. 4	98. 5	1830	74
3	70	TiC 30	Mg0 * 0.1	0, 5	. 89. 9	1560	52
4	70	TiC 30	Mg0 * 6, 0	1. 3	99. 9	1740	84
5	15+2r0 <sub>2</sub> * 55	TiC 30	Mg0 2, 0	0. 5	98. 9	1710	97

【0015】表1の結果によれば、本発明のセラミック 工具に使用される焼結体は、いずれもその全成分の平均 粒径が1 u m以下であり、相対密度が99重量%以上と 高いうえに、硬度、抗折力ともに優れていることが分か る。特に焼結助剤の使用量が1重量%の場合は、使用量 が2重量%以上の場合に比べて一層優れている。一方、 表2の結果によれば、Al2O3又はMgOが上限を越え た場合(比較品1及び4)は、焼結体の全成分の平均粒 径が1 μ mを越え、硬度、抗折力が劣り、また、MgO が下限未満の場合(比較品3)は、相対密度、硬度、抗 10 ® チャンファー: 0.2 mm×-25° 折力いずれもが大きく低下しているのが分かる。その他 の場合にも硬度、抗折力が低下し、比較品はいずれも本 発明のセラミック工具を得るための焼結体としては使用 できないものである。

【0016】(2) セラミック工具の製造

上記(1) で作製した切削テスト用のチップ表面に、表3

(実施例) 及び4 (比較例) に示す被覆膜を公知のCV D法或いはPVD法によって形成し、下記条件で切削テ ストを実施した。

① 被削材: SCM 4 1 5 浸炭焼き入れ材 (Hv=850~70 0 Kg/mm<sup>2</sup>)

- ② チップ形状:TNGN332
- ③ 切削速度:200m/分
- ④ 送り:0.1mm/rev ⑤ 切込み:0.3mm

上記条件にて被削材を30分間切削した後、平均逃げ面 磨耗量 (VB磨耗量)を測定した。それらの結果を表3 及び4に示す。尚、表4において\*は数値限定範囲外で あることを表す。

[0017] 【表3】

実施例	使用烧結体 実施品N o	被覆膜種類及び厚さ (μm) 内層~外層	全厚さ (μm)	V <sub>B</sub> 磨耗量 (mm)	剝離の有無
1	2 .	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (0, 2)+TiC(0, 1)	0.3	0. 18	なし
2	2	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (0,8)+TiC(0,8) ×5 層	8, 0	0.17	なし
3	2	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>8</sub> (0.7)+TiC(0.7)+TiN(0.2)	1.6	0, 15	なし
4	2	TiC(0,7)+ A120s(0,7)	1, 4	0.17	なし
5	2 ·	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>8</sub> (1,5)+TiC(0,7)	2. 2	0.16	なし
. 6	2	Al 20s (0.7)	0.7	0, 18	なし
7	2	TiC(0.7)	0.7	0, 15	なし
8	2	TiN(0.7)	0.7	0. 17	なし
9	4	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>8</sub> (0.7)+TiC(0.7)+TiN(0.2)	1.6	0.16	なし
10	5	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (0, 7)+TiC(0, 7)+TiN(0, 2)	1.6	0. 15	なし
11	7	Al 20 9 (0, 7) + TiC (0, 7) + TiN (0, 2)	1.6	0, 15	なし
12	2	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (0,7)+Alon(0,7)+Tin(0,7)	2.1	0.17	なし

#### \* 4

比較例	使用烧結体 実施品N o	被覆膜種類及び厚さ (μm) 内層~外層	全厚さ (μm)	V。磨耗量 (mm)	剝離の有無
. 1	2	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (0. 05)+TiC (0. 05)	* 0.1	0.30	なし
2	2	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (0.8) +TiC (0.8) ×7 層	* 11.2	0. 32	剝離大
.3	2	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (* 3. 0) +TiC(0. 7)	3. 7	0. 32	剝離
4	市販品	TiN(1.0) (PVDコーティング)	1.0	0.40	剝離、折損

 $[0\,0\,1\,9]$  表3の結果によれば、本地明のセラミック 工具は、いずれも高級度材の高速切削において、被覆膜が剥削性することがなく、且つ、Va 解耗量が小さいこと が分かる。また、最内層に厚さ $0.7\mu$ mのAlzO1 を、最外層に厚さ $0.7\mu$ mのAlzO1 を、最外層に厚さ $0.2\mu$ mのTiNを使用した被覆 腰の場合及び破験がTiC0 たのる場合は、特に開糖性性に優れていることが分かる。一方、表4の結果によれ 20 ば、被覆膜の全厚さが下限未満のもの(比較例1)、上限を越えたもの(比較例2)及び1 層の厚さが上限を値えたもの(比較例3)は、いずれもVa 節託量が実施例の倍程度となっており、また、比較例2をび3では被覆 腰の剥離も生じており、特に比較例2では剥離面積が大きい。前、参考のため比較例4として同様に切削テスト

をした市販品では、磨耗量は本発明における比較例より 更に多く、また、剝離ばかりではなくチップの折損も生 じ、本発明のセラミック工具に比べ若しく性能が劣るこ とが分かる。 【0020】

【発明の効果】本発明の高硬度材切削用セラミック工具は、セラミック本体の構成粒子の平均粒径が特定の微 松子であり、また、特定の摩金 な被複聚を有するため、 硬度及び強度に優れ、浸炭焼き入れ鋼、ダイス鋼等の高 硬度材を高速で切削加工した場合にも、その優れた硬 度、強度が維持され、CBN工具の代替えとして使用し 得るものである。